

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein [step (a) includes the substep of:
determining] the accuracy value is determined according to [using] an acoustical pattern matching procedure.

Please cancel claims 5-7 without prejudice or waiver to the underlying subject matter.

8. (Amended) A speech-enabled apparatus for developing a speech menu [which is adapted to store a plurality of sound commands] for a speech-enabled application, comprising:
a distance accuracy module capable of comparing a candidate [first] sound command [of the plurality of sound commands] from a predetermined table to a previously-stored [second] sound command in the speech menu to determine an accuracy value, the distance accuracy module capable of installing [replacing at least one of] the first sound command unless [and the second sound command with a third sound command if] the accuracy value is less than a predetermined value.

9. The speech-enabled apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the speech-enabled apparatus includes a computer.

10. The speech-enabled apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the speech-enabled apparatus is coupled to at least one device using at least one of a serial connection, a parallel connection, a dedicated card connection, an internet connection and a wireless connection.

11. The speech-enabled apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the at least one device includes at least one of a computer, a stereo system, a telephone, a VCR, a home appliance control device, a cordless computer access device and a lighting system.

12. (Amended) The speech-enabled apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the candidate [each of the plurality of] sound commands includes at least one of a word, a phrase and at least one tone.

13. (Amended) A set of instructions residing in a storage medium, the set of instructions capable of being executed by a processor to implement a development of a speech menu [, the speech menu is adapted to store a plurality of sound commands] for a speech-enabled application, the method comprising the steps of:

a) comparing a candidate [first] sound command [of the plurality of sound commands] from a predetermined table to previously-stored [a second] sound commands to determine an accuracy value therebetween; and

b) if the accuracy values each are [is] less than a predetermined value, installing the candidate [replacing at least one of the first] sound command in the speech menu. [and the second sound command with a third sound command.]

Please cancel claim 14 without prejudice or waiver to the underlying subject matter.

15. (Amended) The set of instructions according to claim 13, wherein [the method further comprising the step of:

d) before step (b), determining] the predetermined value is [as] a function of at least one of the accuracy value, a predetermined threshold value and an average accuracy value, the average accuracy value being determined as a function of an average of a plurality of prior accuracy values.

16. (Amended) The set of instructions according to claim 13, wherein [the step (a) of the method includes the substep of:

determining] the accuracy value is determined using an acoustical pattern matching procedure.

Please cancel claims 17-18 without prejudice or waiver to the underlying subject matter.

19. (Amended) The set of instructions according to claim 13, wherein the candidate [each of the plurality of] sound command[s] includes at least one of a word, a phrase and at least one tone.

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or waiver to the underlying subject matter.

Please add the following new claims 21-36.

21. (New) A method of building a speech menu, comprising:

for a table including an execution command associated with a plurality of candidate audio commands, comparing each of the candidate audio commands with previously registered audio commands to develop an accuracy value, and

adding to the speech menu those candidate audio commands for which associated accuracy values exceed a predetermined value.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising installing the new execution command in association with any stored candidate audio commands.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the candidate audio command is speech.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the candidate audio command is a tone.

25. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the comparing and adding occur automatically, without user intervention.

~~26. (New) A method of building a speech menu, comprising:
from a predetermined table associating a candidate audio command with an execution command, comparing the candidate audio command with each audio command previously installed in the speech menu to develop an accuracy value, and
installing the candidate audio command in the speech menu if each of the accuracy values exceeds a predetermined value.~~

~~27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising installing the execution command in association with the candidate audio command.~~

~~28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the candidate audio command is one of a plurality of candidate audio commands defined in a table associated with the execution command.~~

~~29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the candidate audio command is speech.~~

~~30. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the candidate audio command is a tone.~~

~~31. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the comparing and signaling occur automatically, without user intervention~~

~~32. (New) The speech-enabled apparatus of claim 8, wherein the candidate audio command is one of a plurality of candidate audio commands defined in the table associated with an execution command.~~

~~33. (New) The speech-enabled apparatus of claim 8 further capable of installing an execution command in association with the candidate audio command.~~